

unpatentable over Akamine (U.S. Patent 4,851,351); Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Akamine in view of Hall (U.S. Patent 246,879); and Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Akamine in view of McCarron (U.S. Patent 964,044).

With regard to the objection to the drawings, Claims 6-8 have been canceled. Thus, this objection is now moot.

In response to the objection to the specification, the specification has been corrected to clarify the support and antecedent basis for the subject matters recited in Claims 2 and 3 in page 3, line 11-13 of the specification.

Claims 1-5 have been amended herein. These claim amendments find clear support in the original specification, claims and drawings. For example, amended Claim 1 is supported by Figure 7 showing a glass product having a main part and a secondary part in its body. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work in a joint effort to derive mutually satisfactory claim language.

Briefly recapitulating, Claim 1 of the present invention is directed to a glass product including a body having a main part and at least one secondary part, and a collar formed on the body and having an axis not parallel to an axis of the main part.

The outstanding Office Action asserts that it has been long known that glass flasks can be provided with collars which extend at an angle with the axis of their bodies as taught by Akamine. Nevertheless, Akamine does not teach a body having a main part and at least one secondary part, and a collar formed on the body and having an axis not parallel to an axis of the main part. Instead, Akamine only discloses a culture vessel glass having one neck or collar provided for the body having only the main part as the body. Therefore, the structure recited in Claim 1 is clearly distinguishable from Akamine.

Similarly, Hall and McCarron disclose a drinking flask having only the main part and a bottle having only the main part, but neither Hall nor McCarron teaches a body having a main part and at least one secondary part, and a collar formed on the body and having an axis not parallel to an axis of the main part, as recited in Claim 1. Hence, the structure recited in Claim 1 is also distinguishable from Hall and McCarron.

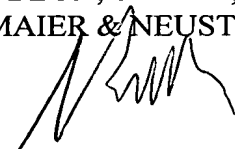
Because none of Akamine, Hall and McCarron discloses the body and collar as recited in Claim 1, even the combined teachings of these applied references would not in any way render the structure recited in Claim 1 obvious.

For the foregoing reasons, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable. Furthermore, since Claims 2-5 ultimately depend from Claim 1, substantially the same arguments set forth above also apply to these dependent claims. Hence, Claims 2-5 are believed to be allowable as well.

In view of the amendments and discussions presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 6-8 without prejudice and amend Claims 1-5 as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A glass product comprising:

a body having a [at least one] main part and at least one secondary part; and

a collar formed on said body[, wherein an axis of said collar] and having an axis [is]

not parallel to an axis of said [at least one] main part.
2. (Amended) The glass product of Claim 1, wherein said [at least one] main part of
said body comprises at least 20% of glass in the glass product.
3. (Amended) The glass product of Claim 1, wherein said [at least one] main part of
said body comprises at least 60% of glass in the glass product.
4. (Amended) The glass product of Claim 1, wherein said axis of said [at least one]
main part and said axis of said collar form an angle between 60° and 180°.
5. (Amended) The glass product of Claim 4, wherein said axis of said [at least one]
main part of said body and said axis of said collar form an angle between 90° and 150°.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled) --